

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A ~~pharmaceutical composition~~ method for treating a subject afflicted with a liver disease selected from the group consisting of liver dysfunction, liver fibrosis and liver cirrhosis, comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of an extract product from the root of *Polygonum multiflorum Thunb.* ~~as defined in Claim 1.~~

7-23. (Canceled)

24. (New) The method of Claim 6 wherein the liver disease is liver dysfunction.

25. (New) The method of Claim 6 wherein the liver disease is liver fibrosis.

26. (New) The method of Claim 6 wherein the liver disease is liver cirrhosis.

27. (New) The method of Claim 6 wherein the extract product from the root of *Polygonum multiflorum Thunb.* is prepared from a process comprising the steps of:

- (a) subjecting a suitable amount of a starting root material of *Polygonum multiflorum Thunb.* to a freezing treatment for a period of time;
- (b) subjecting the frozen product obtained in step (a) to an extraction treatment with methanol;
- (c) subjecting the methanol extracted product from step (b) to a separating treatment to obtain a methanol solution free of extracted root debris of the starting root material of *Polygonum multiflorum Thunb.*; and

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(d) removing methanol from the methanol solution obtained in step (c) to obtain a methanol-extracted product.

28. (New) The method of Claim 27, wherein the methanol-extracted product obtained from step (d) is further lyophilized.

29. (New) The method of Claim 6, wherein the extract product from the root of *Polygonum multiflorum Thunb.* is administered to the subject at a dosage of from about 20 to 1,000 mg per day.

30. (New) The method of Claim 6, wherein the extract product from the root of *Polygonum multiflorum Thunb.* is administered in a pharmaceutical composition as at least one of an oral preparation, an injection, an inhalant, or nasal drops.

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